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Ground Zero News

February 1994 Volume 2, No. 2

We Are All Family

In 1994, Ground Zero's strategy will be centered around the idea that WE ARE ALL FAMILY, and everyone deserves equal rights. Ground Zero will also stress the importance of understanding the national agenda of the Radical Right, and work on countering the lies put out by the Right, especially those concerning the G/L/B/T community. We will attempt to combat the myths of the Radical Right through education and outreach to three areas: the G/L/B/T community, the minority community, and Colorado Springs at large.

We asked Frank Whitworth, Office Manager for Ground Zero, to kick-off the campaign by "Sounding-off" with his thoughts.

Recently, I was seated at one of the local bars. Next to me were several of my Gay brothers. While I knew them from having seen them often in that bar, I quite frankly never saw them at one meeting, rally or event outside of the bar.

Now I am not so naive to think that everyone in the community will have the same drive and motivation that those of us who have chosen the activist route have. Their conversation, however, concerned me because it indicates an attitude that I fear permeates much of the Gay and Lesbian Community, especially since the court decision overturning 2.

The thrust of their conversation, quite simply, was that they were sick of all the talk and debate around the subject of gay rights.

Well gee, golly, gosh, darn, guys. So am I! It fills everyday of my life as I attempt to make a difference, not just in Colorado Springs, but all across America. The decision by Judge Bayless, however welcomed, addressed only the tip of the iceberg. **There is today an attack by one element of society, representative in fact of less than 18% of the population, on the fabric of American society. They seek to reshape America in their image and they are quite intolerant of any divergence from this vision.** They are driven by a warped interpretation of the teachings of Jesus who, whether you believe in his divinity or not, was an inspired teacher and philosopher.

In their attack on Gays and Lesbians, they have found the goose that laid the golden egg like no other issue upon which they have seized and they do not intend to let it go. They will ride this horse until it drops dead or until it bucks them off and soundly trounces them.

Issues are the way the Right builds their power base and coffers. It does not matter what the issue: abortion and reproduction rights; anti-environmentalism; public education; prayer in school; multi-culturalism; gay/lesbian rights; English Only; Native American cultural survival; paganism; mainstream churches; the ERA; separation of Church and state; family leave, gun control, etc., etc.

To understand their strategy, one has only to imagine that they are fishing. Each issue is a cast of the rod. Each time they reel in, they bring home the fish--the supporters of that particular cause. **In the long run, it doesn't matter whether they win the issue--they have, in effect, accomplished their goal--they have increased their armies and, most likely, their economic well being. Win or lose the issue, they are almost certain to keep both of these.**

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Abortion Rights run a distant second to the success they have had in building supporters, money and power base over the question of the so-called "GAY AGENDA." **They don't care that in using this issue they have lied, they have built false stereotypes and that they have effectively destroyed the reputations of millions of people solely to succeed.** They gauge success by how well they can fulfill their lust to be in control--to rule and to exert their vision of America on us all.

When the Abortion issue seemed largely tapped out, the radical right needed a scapegoat--needed a witch to hunt. That is the nature of the beast they ride. Power, support and money best flows on the back of fear, hate and oppression. The Gay issue is far from tapped out and they will play it for all its worth until it is. They will continue their campaigns of innuendo, lies and myth building. They will continue to introduce one version after another of Amendment 2 and they will win even when they lose unless we begin now to counter their lies, to counter their myths, to identify who we are and who they are and to identify the danger to our Constitutional form of government that is inherent in the precepts of their agenda.

They have raised hundreds of millions of dollars nationwide on this issue. They have spent enormous amounts to insure that the issues stay hot and they are willing to keep spending. **CFV is rumored to have raised four to five million dollars since the passage of 2, many times that raised by all Gay groups in Colorado.** They have the ability to raise this many times again.

Don't believe their story that Gays and Lesbians outspent them in the Amendment 2 campaign. To be sure, we outspent their reported expenditures. But all across the state and America, thousands upon thousands of fundamentalists churches, radio stations, organizations, television programs, and individuals focused on this issue. **You don't have to step outside of your religious cloak to accomplish a political end. As long as a 501 (c) (3) organization doesn't mention a specific political issue, doesn't directly lobby a legislator, they can have a great deal of influence on the electorate and elected officials and spend a wealth of money doing it.**

The Gay issue is right up their alley. They never need to mention Amendment 2--they never need to lobby for a bill. They quite simply have to keep up the hue and cry of the bible and homosexuality; religion and homosexuality, children and homosexuals, the threat to the family by militant homosexuals, etc. The initiatives and the politics will follow behind. True, Focus on the Family, with 100 million in income, is limited to spending only $5,000,000 of that on lobbying and political action and groups. **There is no limit, however, to how much they can spend on sermons, radio and television and printed materials on the subject of the abomination, HOMOSEXUALITY and related subjects.**

When the People for a Stronger Colorado representatives told me that they were looking for several hundred thousand dollars to campaign for the passage of their now dead Equal Protection Amendment, I had to laugh. I told them that it would take several millions, if not many times that, to even hope to win the day by countering CFV's direct expenditures and indirect network.

The Gay and Lesbian Community and, indeed, society in general, is facing many years of attack on their liberties and rights to be different from that one view of what they should be. In the GLBT community we must establish ourselves not for the issue at hand but, rather, for the long haul. WE have to accept that it will take years of work just to undo the lies and myths already established against us. We must commit ourselves to programs of education, community involvement and identifying who and what we really are to the public at large.

We must accept that there will be more losses than victories for many years and gains may be small. The other alternative, however, is totally unacceptable. **Can anyone doubt where we will end up if we do not fight back--if we do not resist? The radical right is already well on the way to fulfilling the agenda of oppression that was developed by Stalin and Hitler--VILIFY DEHUMANIZE SEGREGATE ELIMINATE. The first two are well accomplished and they are hard at work on the third. "Who will be there when they come for you?"**

Because you are tired of it, the threat is not going away. There is an agenda to eliminate Gays

and Lesbians from viable participation in society and in government. Having done so, we will be as effectively eliminated as those Hitler sent to his gas chambers. **You must then ask the question--WHO WILL BE NEXT?**

On Sunday, February 6, 1994 at 7 PM in the Gaylord Room of Worner Hall Ground Zero will hold an extremely important meeting. For months Ground Zero has been working on a plan for the future--not just for the next several months--but for years to come. It is a plan not just for Ground Zero but, also, for the community at large. We believe that this will be a defining moment in regard the future of the GLBT community in our area. All interested groups, individuals and entities will be included, will be needed and will be sought out in refining this plan. EVERYONE'S HELP WILL BE REQUIRED.

THE GLBT COMMUNITY HAS TAKEN THE REACTIVE ROAD ONCE TOO OFTEN. IT'S TIME FOR US TO GET OFF OUR COLLECTIVE REARS AND MOVE FORWARD WITH A PROACTIVE PROGRAM.

We ARE ALL FAMILY

RIGHT WING ATTACKS APPLE
by Frank Mosher

True to form the fanatical right has stirred up negative reaction to the progressive personnel policies of Apple Computer. Protests have been lodged especially in Colorado, Oregon and Texas. To register your approval for tolerance and diversity encourage the company by calling Kevin Sullivan, Director of Human Resources (408) 996-1010. Let's encourage those who support us!

SMOKEBRUSH THEATER looking for volunteers. If you've ever wanted to work in theater, the Smokebrush Center, 235 South Nevada, invites you to volunteer in many different areas of theater and arts production. Call 444-0884 for more information.

A FEW WORDS FROM LA GUIA

La Guia has expanded (again)! Our new friends come form the San Luis Valley and are being incorporated into La Guia as a new division. A representative from the San Luis Valley reported that the interest in the Valley is strong. So if you're from the Valley, sign up.

La Guia's first major function/fund-raiser has been rescheduled to Saturday, February 19. Call for details.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with La Guia's, here's La Guia in a nutshell.

La Guia's Mission Statement

La Guia is a grassroots organization that encourages the inclusion of Hispanic/Latino, Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and their friends by providing a diverse forum that is both autonomous and interactive within the greater Gay and Lesbian community.

La Guia's Vision Statement

We envision a Gay and Lesbian community that is educated and respectful of the racial, ethnic and cultured diversity within the Hispanic/Latino community, and who are aware of the benefits of promoting multiculturalism.

La Guia's Description of Itself

We represent Hispanic/Latino Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and their friends from a variety of backgrounds throughout southern Colorado who are dedicated to the unification and education of the gay and Lesbian community at-large and who believe in the mission statement of La Guia.

If you have any questions about La Guia call the Ground Zero office.

The *Ground Zero News* is an authorized publication for members of Ground Zero. A condensed version is published for monthly distribution through friendly vendors to the general public. Contents of the *Ground Zero News* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the Board of Directors of Ground Zero. The editorial content is edited and prepared by the Newsletter staff/committee.

The Newsletter staff members are:
Sue R. - editor
Buffy H. - technical content/layout
Gail A. - distribution
Associate staff are members of the Networking Committee.

The *Ground Zero News* is published on the first day of each month. Submissions should be sent to P.O. Box 1982, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. Deadline for submission is the 15th of month prior to the month of publication. All submissions will be edited to conform with accepted style book standards.

COALITION ON REVIVAL DECIDES TO JOIN THE RIGHT WING ZEALOTS IN THE SPRINGS

One of the most radical and homophobic fanatical religious groups in the country should be joining the Colorado Springs community in June. COR, Coalition of Revival which advocates making the Unites States a theocracy, basing all laws on the bible, such as death penalties for homosexuals, and the abolition of the public schools, will be a force we will need to deal with. According to Citizens Project, none of the officials of COR or those helping in their move, the Adopt a People Clearing house, have returned calls or inquiries. In addition to moving their headquarters here, Colorado Springs will be the location of Kingdom College which has been described as a "boot camp training school for radical world changers". Any individuals or groups you communicate with should be made aware of this "coming attraction". Our community has its work cut out for it. If we thought Focus or Family was "bad" news, this group may make them look like flaming liberals! GZ will keep you posted on their "progress" and will give more details on their "teachings" in following newsletters.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR BIBLE?

...excerpts from Deb Price's column from the San Francisco Examiner of 8/24/93

An engineering professor is treating her husband, a loan officer, to dinner for finally giving in to her please to shave off the scraggly beard he grew on vacation. His favorite restaurant is a casual place where they both feel comfortable in slacks and cotton-polyester blend golf shirts. But, as always, she wears the gold and pearl pendant he gave her the day her divorce to her first husband was final. They're laughing over their menus because they know he always ends up diving into a giant plate of ribs, but she won't be talked into anything more fattening than shrimp.

Quiz: How many Biblical prohibitions are they violating?

Send in your answers to the GZ office, Attn: Editor. Answers will be published in the March issue.

If there is a community member who knows chapter and verse who would like to continue this "mind tease", please contact the GZ office.

LAVENDER U. TO OFFER CLASSES IN THE SPRINGS

Lavender University, a Gay Lesbian and Bi-sexual Learning Experience, announced that it will hold its first branch campus in Colorado Springs on April 9th. Lavender U is based on the "free university" format with one notable difference; its classes are designed for and by gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities. In its third year, Lavender U. has offered classes in cooking, alternative medicine, spirituality, sports and outdoor events, literature, culture, as well as many others. The University is committed to providing quality educational, social, and recreational opportunities in a gay-friendly environment. The first event outside of Denver area is "Lavender U. in the Springs" on the campus of Colorado College, April 9th. This will be a one day event, beginning with registration at 12:30 in Gaylord Hall in the Colorado College Student Center at 902 N. Cascade Ave. Classes will run from 1pm to 5pm. After a short break, all students and friends are invited to a potluck dinner in Gaylord Hall with music for dancing provided by the Rainbeaus of Denver. Several classes will be offered, including classes on massage, financial planning, introduction to square dancing, and a book discussion with a local author. Proceeds will benefit the Pikes Peak Gay and lesbian Community Center of Colorado Springs. Registration is required by March 22, for guaranteed class space. Look for registration flyers or call Lavender University at 303-831-6268.

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GAY ACTIVISTS SAY CINCINNATI BOYCOTT WORKING

Two Large Conventions Lost After Law Repealed

Excerpts from the Gazette Telegraph, Tuesday, Jan. 18

Cincinnati has lost two conventions since residents voted to repeal an anti-discrimination law for homosexuals, and gay activists are pressing for other convention organizers to pull out.

Gay & Lesbian March Activists - ACT UP Cincinnati organized an economic boycott patterned after one used last year in Colorado after Cincinnati voters passed a measure in November nullifying the gay rights section of the city's anti-discrimination law. A federal judge blocked the measure's implementation pending a court challenge that is to be heard June 20.

"Things are moving kind of slowly, but we're happy that in the short time the boycott has been in effect there have been two major cancellations," boycott coordinator Todd Kamm said. "We are hopeful there will be more cancellations."

The American Historical Association decided last weekend to cancel its January 1995 conference in Cincinnati. (The AHA, the nations largest professional organization for historians, said it would not hold its meeting in cities where its members could be subject to discrimination. It adopted the policy statement during a four-day conference in San Francisco.) Last month, the city lost the American Library Association's 1995 convention. Both groups said they canceled because of the November vote.

The loss of the AHA convention is expected to cost the city $3 million, and the library convention will cost $5 million, said Beth Charlton, spokeswoman for the Greater Cincinnati Convention & Visitors Bureau.

She said it was too early to say if other groups might cancel. "Organizations have expressed a need for more information. They have expressed concern," she said. "But at this point, we are not awaiting any other cancellations.

Cincinnati made 236 million from conventions last year, Charlton said.

The human rights ordinance, adopted by the City Council in 1992, bans discrimination in jobs and housing on the basis of race, sex, national origin, physical disability or sexual orientation. The measure passed last November deletes the sexual-orientation provision.

Boycott Colorado organizers say the boycott cost the state about $120 million in lost conventions, canceled meetings and decisions not to locate new businesses in the state.

Despite those loses, the state's tourism industry claimed a good year and increases in sales tax revenue and retail sales were recorded. And the state's ski resorts saw a 40 percent increase in profits before taxes during the 1992-1993 ski season, according to a survey conducted for he National Ski Areas Association by an accounting firm.

ALTERNATIVE TO THE RED RIBBONS

Product announcement from Tag Team Products, Inc. "By now, in this second decade of global devastation caused by AIDS virtually every one of us has been affected. We have witnessed the ravages of this disease and seen loved ones perish. We have cried, mourned and waited helplessly for a cure. We have seen politicians make promises and wear red ribbons.

RED RIBBONS ARE NOT ENOUGH! We need to start putting money behind our support and do everything possible to end the destruction caused by AIDS.

A Remembrance Tag is the perfect way to personify what this disease has done. It is a reminder that THE ONES WE LOVE ARE NOT JUST STATISTICS! They are our lovers, friends, families and children. And for every Remembrance Tag you purchase, a generous portion of the cost will go to various AIDS organizations and research groups."

For more information you can contact TAG TEAM PRODUCTS, INC., 1454 ROCKAWAY PARKWAY, BOX #273, BROOKLYN, NY.. 11236.

1994 STRATEGIES OF ORGANIZATIONS

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF)
1734 14th Street N.W., Washington, DC 20009

Summation of NGLTF's 1994 Campaign, Fight the Right from PJR, Peri Jude.

* NGLTF will do polling and message development in every single state that has ballot initiatives. Campaigns will be shaped around the messages that resonate strongly with voters. NGLTF has budgeted at least $90,000 in 1994 for this polling campaign.

* Recruiting more people to work outside of Washington, DC on this campaign. NGLTF Policy Institute will add one new organizer in 1994, and this year has added Robert Bray in San Francisco, Sue Hude in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Scot Nakagawa in Portland, Oregon. All are seasoned activists, and all travel across the country to work with as many communities as possible.

* NGLTF will provide trained activists to those communities in need. In 1994 NGLTF will hold at least four Fight the Right Regional Summits, and numerous Fight the Right Trainings across the country. The Fight the Right Campaign will continue to set aside funds to provide gas money, bus tickets, and registration scholarships so hundred of activists can be armed, ready and fighting.

* To update the Fight the Right Action Kit which contains a comprehensive collection of information, tips and knowledge available. Also to provide 10,000 more of these to activists.

* Developing the seventh Creating Change Conference in Dallas to reach even more activists.

* Use of electronic communication even more extensively - to communicate with other organizers, to post publications, and to alert members to fast-moving events. On election night in 1994, NGLTF will again be live on America On Line (AOL) - connecting communities and activists.

HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE
(401 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014)

HMI teaches gay and lesbian high school students to conduct in-school workshops on what it means to be gay or lesbian. The workshops are offered at any public or private school that invites them. HMI's counseling services help adolescent clients and their families confront the multitude of problems to which gay and lesbian youth are especially vulnerable -- including family violence, substance abuse, isolation, pregnancy and HIV/AIDS.

HMI's crisis line helps hundreds of callers each month, from the New York area and throughout the country, find information, referrals, or simply a trained and sensitive ear.

HMI's Drop In Centers provide lesbian and gay teens a safe place to met, be themselves and explore their emerging identities. Through interaction with HMI staff and volunteers, visitors meet positive adult role models, make friends and have fun.

HMI's Project First Stop reaches out to over 7,000 homeless gay and lesbian youth struggling to survive on the dangerous streets of New York.

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FUND
(1012 14th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005)

HRCF is responding to the "Colorado-style" referenda which could be on the ballot in at least 12 states and municipal jurisdictions in 1994 by conducting polling and focus group research to develop an effective message that motivates voters, conducting research on the radical right to educate the public on the threat they pose, and providing fundraising, campaign organizing and political consulting services to help local groups organize their campaigns.

HRCF's 80,000 members maintain the nation's largest full-time lobbying team devoted to equal rights, AIDS research, and lesbian and gay health issues.

February 1994

Office: 1-719-635-6086
Fax: 1-719-635-6106

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Diversity Chorus 7:00p	3 PPGLCC Bingo 7 pm 21st St. Bingo	4	5
6 AIDS Liturgy 3 pm 2318 N. Cascade We Are All Family 7:00 pm Worner Hall Colorado College	7 GZ Executive Committee 7p Colo. College	8	9 PFLAG Meeting call 575-8658 Diversity Chorus 7:00p	10 PPGLCC Bingo 7 pm 21st St. Bingo	11	12 Karla Bonoff/ Chris Williamson Concert 7:30 pm Denver
13 MCC Installation Ceremony, 5 pm, 730 N. Tejon	14 GZ Executive Committee 7p Colo. College	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 Diversity Chorus 7:00p	17 PPGLCC Bingo 7 pm 21st St. Bingo	18 DIGNITY Regional Conference Santa Fe	19 La Guia Mega Mixer DIGNITY Regional Conference Santa Fe
20 DIGNITY Regional Conference Santa Fe	21 GZ Board of Directors 7p Colo. College	22	23 Diversity Chorus 7:00p	24 PPGLCC Bingo 7 pm 21st St. Bingo	25 Romanovsky/ Phillips CD Signing Abaton Books	26
27	28 SMOKEBRUSH Deadline GZ Executive Committee 7p Colo. College	March 1	Diversity Chorus 7:00p March 2	PPGLCC Bingo 7 pm 21st St. Bingo March 3	Domestic Violence Conference March 4	Domestic Violence Conference March 5

Calendar Details...

FEBRUARY 6, SUNDAY, 7PM GAYLORD ROOM, WORNER HALL, CC. GROUND ZERO'S 1994 CAMPAIGN "WE ARE ALL FAMILY" WILL BE PRESENTED. This campaign is structured to involve the entire **GLBT** community... not just a handful of people. We need everyone's help to move the **GLBT**community beyond Amendment 2.

FEBRUARY 6, SUNDAY, 3PM, AIDS LITURGY - Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 2318 N. Cascade Avenue.

FEBRUARY 12, SATURDAY, 7:30PM, KARLA BONOFF AND CHRIS WILLIAMSON, together in concert at the Auditorium Theater. The Bonoff/Williamson concert is a benefit for public television station KBDI - TV 12. Tickets available at Category Six Books, The Book Garden, TicketMaster.

FEBRUARY 13, SUNDAY, 5PM, PIKES PEAK MCC, 730 N. TEJON, REV. TROY PERRY TO SPEAK. Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, will officiate at the installation ceremony of Rev. Nori J. Rost, new pastor at Pikes Peak MCC. Perry, an activist for Lesbian and Gay rights worldwide, founded the UFMCC over 25 year ago, after being ousted from his Pentecostal denomination with an outreach to the Gay and Lesbian community, now has approximately 300 churches in 17 different countries with roughly 100,000 members. Rost and her life partner, Kim Stephens, come to Colorado Springs from Long Beach, Ca. For the past years Rost has served as assistant pastor of MCC Long Beach.

FEBRUARY 18 - 21, FRIDAY - SUNDAY, MOUNTAIN/PLAIN DIGNITY REGIONAL CONFERENCE -- Santa Fe. Call 635-5773 for more information.

FEBRUARY 19, SATURDAY, MEGA MIXER, La Guia's first major function/fund-raiser. Call GZ office for more information.

FEBRUARY 25, FRIDAY, ROMANOVSKY and PHILLIPS, ABATON BOOKS. Romanovsky and Phillips will sign their latest CD to promote their March 9th Concert in the Springs. Call GZ office for times and details.

FEBRUARY 28, SMOKEBRUSH FESTIVAL OF NEW PLAYS FOR CHILDREN DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION. This is a call for entries for the "Smokebrush Festival of New Play for Children," a national competition for original, unproduced, full-length plays for children. For more information call Linda Borrell, 444-0884.

MARCH 4 - 5, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, LOVE AND VIOLENCE: CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, Domestic Violence Conference, LeBaron Hotel, 314 W. Bijou Street, Colorado Springs, Co. 80905. Keynote speaker, the Honorable Pamela L. Iles, J.D. Conference will focus on prevention of inter-generational violence and to provide networking opportunities for professionals concerned about domestic violence. For a complete list of workshops or form more information, contact the Center for Prevention of Domestic Violence at (719) 633-1462.

Got News to share with your "Family"? Remember that the GZ Newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

La Gula Invites Ground Zero to the MEGA-MIXER 94'!

SATURDAY, FEB. 19th. 8:00pm
at the
UNION STOP
323 W. NORTHERN AVENUE
PUEBLO, COLORADO

La Gula members - $3.00
non-members - $4.00

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(map to MEGA-MIXER on back)

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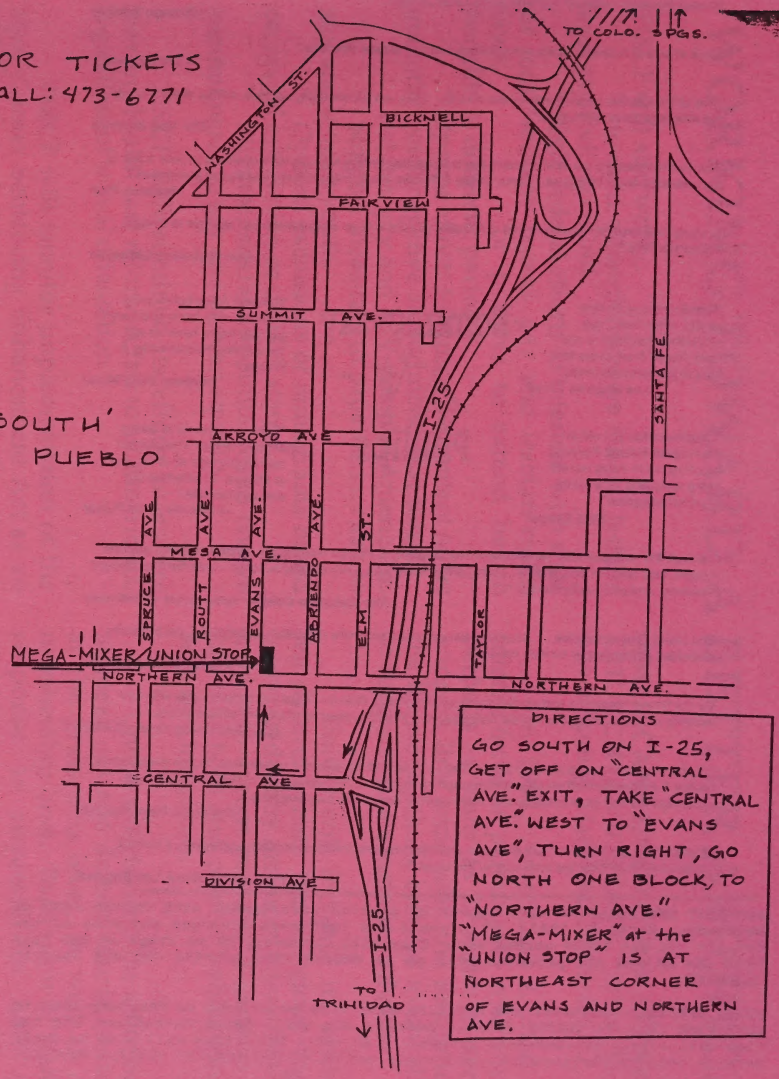

DIRECTIONS

GO SOUTH ON I-25, GET OFF ON "CENTRAL AVE." EXIT, TAKE "CENTRAL AVE." WEST TO "EVANS AVE", TURN RIGHT, GO NORTH ONE BLOCK, TO "NORTHERN AVE." "MEGA-MIXER" at the "UNION STOP" IS AT NORTHEAST CORNER OF EVANS AND NORTHERN AVE.

"A most musically polished duo with a good deal to say."

-Chicago Tribune

"Their choice of subjects, acute observations and wry wit are peerless."

- The Advocate

"One of the funniest musical acts in this country. They are talented gay activists whose music, humor and message cross all barriers."

-The New Mexican

After years of hearing the straight party line in songs about love and life, it's refreshing to hear a pair of gay men sing about their lives. Romanovsky & Phillips are intelligent, witty and stylish performers."

-Houston Post

"A sassy, folk-inspired repertoire that celebrates gay life with an easy humor that appeals to straight listeners as well."

-San Francisco Chronicle

"Romanovsky & Phillips' candid, often humorous, sometimes poignant songs have placed them at the forefront of gay-oriented music."

-Los Angeles Times

Romanovsky & Phillips

"If Simon & Garfunkle were younger, very funny and very gay,you might have an act resembling Romanovsky & Phillips."

-Sydney Daily Mirror

"I applaud what you did at the Hudson Revival Festival... reaching out to every human being struggling for a sense of personal justice."

-Pete Seeger

"Their art consists of taking aspects of their lifestyle and connecting with all of us, gay or straight to entertain as well as elucidate."

-Tower Records Pulse!

Although the audience who came to hear Romanovsky & Phillips was evenly divided between gay and straight, their reaction was unified. Their performance was a resounding success - entertaining, thought-provoking, and profoundly moving."

-The Colorado College Symposium on Intimacy

"The Mardi Gras committee . . . could not have chosen two more delightful, entertaining, yet politically committed ambassadors for their cause."

-Sydney Morning Herald

"By the time the laughing and singing evening had ended, Ron and Paul had walked away with two standing ovations, and the audience had enjoyed a touching evening of superb performances."

-Gay Community News, Boston

"Their mutual willingness to stand before their audience so emotionally unbarriered makes every Romanovsky & Phillips concert an experience in self-recognition...They speak our cultural language and encourage the rest of us to follow suit, unconcerned about who may overhear."

-The Front Page, Raleigh

"Romanovsky & Phillips will turn the head and heart of even the most staunch separatist...a definite breath of fresh air from the male side of the world."

-The Lesbian News, Los Angeles

ROMANSKY AND PHILLIPS will appear by special arrangement with GROUND ZERO on Wednesday, March 9, 1993/ This event has just been arranged and many of the details are yet to be worked out. They will, however, be on stage at THE FINE ARTS CENTER and all proceeds will go to GROUND ZERO AND ITS "WE ARE FAMILY" CAMPAIGN.

EXTRA SPECIAL: ROMANSKY AND PHILLIPS will also be in town on February 25th to autograph CD'S at ABATON BOOKS. Details are still being worked out but the time will likely be somewhere between 10 AM and 2 PM . They will also be doing several media interviews on local radio and tv. LOOK FOR THE DETAILS SHORTLY.

Don't let Lucie Blue Tremblay's middle name fool you — her songs are about the joyous powers of love.

And it would be wrong to pigeonhole her because she's playing Folk Under the Clock Saturday. If Tremblay's purely a folkie, so are Jennifer Warnes, Linda Ronstadt and Carole King.

Tremblay, with her flair for romantic imagery and haunting melodies, is equally at ease performing in English and French and writes in whichever language the songs come to her.

Her warm, clear voice is not her only aural talent — she has an ethereal whistle, which would "make even the finest pan flutist envious", according to her press material.

She swept honors at the 16th annual Granby Song Festival in Quebec in 1984 and soon afterward, recorded her first self-titled album with Olivia Records, which brought her music to the United States.

Tremblay has released a subsequent recording, Tendresse, and appeared in venues ranging from coffee houses to Carnegie Hall. Last summer, she represented Canada at the 1992 Expo in Seville, Spain.

While most of her material is about romance, she also delves into political topics, including Homeless Song, about a displaced 16-year-old; Politique, about the priorities of government; and Two Lives, about lesbians who have to lead separate lives in public and private.

Tremblay, a lesbian and feminist, has produced a "coming out kit" — a cassette single titled I Want You To Know Who I Really Am, for gays and lesbians coming out to their family and friends.

Tremblay recently returned to live in Montreal after spending five years in the United States.

She comes from a musical family and has been performing since age six, including singing with her mother's band. She adopted Blue as her middle name because she was told Tremblay was too common a stage name. Because she whistles like a bird, she consulted Peterson's Field Guide of Birds, but instead settled on Blue because it's "an emotional feeling color for me. I love the color of the water and the sky."

GROUND ZERO

GROUND ZERO WELCOMES

CANADIAN SINGER/SONGWRITER

Lucie Blue Tremblay

IN CONCERT

Saturday, March 19, 7:30 pm

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center

30 West Dale Street

$12.00

Tickets are available at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center Box Office and Abaton Books in Colorado Springs; The Book Garden in Denver; and at Ticketmaster outlets. Tickets are subject to a service charge.

Tickets also available by mail (NO SERVICE CHARGE): send SASE to Maven Productions, P.O. Box 970, Boulder, CO 80306. Order by phone with credit card: 303-443-5858. Information: 719-634-5581.

GROUND ZERO
P.O. BOX 1982
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
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WORKING TOWARD A BETTER AMERICA

HRCF will also work...

* toward a comprehensive federal lesbian and gay civil rights bill.
* fight federal efforts to interfere with state or local sodomy repeal, gay and lesbian rights laws, or policies to extend health benefits to domestic partners.
* Oppose efforts to censor the content of art and other such negative amendments that target lesbian, gay and HIV-positive Americans.
* Support measures to provide services to gay and lesbian youth.
* Oppose exclusions of immigrants based on sexual orientation or on HIV status.
* Monitor federal appointments to ensure commitments to gay and lesbian equality.

HRCF will continue its efforts to ensure that any health care reform is fair to all Americans, regardless of sexual orientation.

HRCF will monitor implementation of the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act as an important new legal weapon against hate crimes.

NEW RESOURCE CENTER AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Men's Anti-Rape Resource Center (MARC) works with men to stop rape. The primary goals of MARC are to educate, sensitize, motivate, and train men to take active and effective steps to eliminate all forms of men's sexual violence. MARC is founded in the belief that rape, and all other forms of men's sexual violence, are perpetrated by men and will only stop when men stop raping.

MARC maintains the pro-feminist understanding of the ways men's sexual violence continuously affects the lives of women, children, and other men. They define men's sexual violence in a broad way including: pornography, prostitution, domestic and dating violence, sexual harassment, incest and child sexual abuse.

For more information please contact, Rus Ervin Funk, Coordinator, Men's Anti-Rape Resource Center, P.O. Box 73559, Washington, D.C. 20056, 202-529-7239.

AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE (8120 Fenton Street, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-4781)

In 1994, Americans United expects an intense focus on parochiaid - with voucher bills in perhaps as many as 25 states as secular right - wingers link arms with the Religious Right and the Roman Catholic bishops to tax all Americans to support private sectarian schools.

United will increase its activity in state legislatures where the Religious Right and the parochiaid lobby are most active these days. One goal is to uproot parochiaid gambits before they can take hold and protect public education from sectarian intrusions.

United will develop the additional chapters to speak out and defend church/state separation at the grassroots level, as well as expand our membership base. Expansion of staff will allow response to requests for help from local communities.

United will defend separation of church and state at the U.S. Supreme Court level, where the principle will be under renewed attach in 1994 by the Religious Right and parochiaid groups. United will also speak up for separation at lower federal and state courts and expand our network of volunteer attorneys. A goal is to build a legal network that will respond quickly and effectively to any threat of separation at the community and state levels.

United will expand upon the enhanced media visibility achieved in 1993, including more appearances on NBC, CBS, ABC, CNN, National Public Radio, and other major outlets and, hopefully, more debates along the lines of its recent PBS "Firing Line" debate about the Religious Right.

(If you have information on other groups that are preparing strategies, please send a description to the Ground Zero office for publication in a future issue.)

NEWS FROM PEOPLE FOR A STRONGER COLORADO

(Denver) Judge Marshall Snider has determined that CFV was in violation of Colorado's Campaign Reform Act when they solicited contributions to fight the Equal Protection Amendment throughout 1993.

The Equal Protection Amendment would have replaced Amendment 2 with a constitutional guarantee of protection from discrimination in housing, employment, education and public accommodations.

CFV started what they called the Amendment 2 Defense Fund to raise money for a campaign against the EPA. The law clearly states that kind of fund raising requires an organization to be filed as a "political committee" which, in turn, requires that all contributions and expenditures are made public information.

CFV has made a history of attempting to hide where they receive their money from. This is the fifth time they have been caught violating the Campaign Reform Act in Colorado. Now there is mounting evidence that they are being used by other states to funnel money for Amendment 2 clones which are actively trying to get on the 1994 ballot in those states. The best example of this is the reports the CFV gave $390,000 to a similar group in Cincinnati, Ohio. To date, there has been no disclosure of where that money was raised.

Organizations around the country are investigating the election laws of their own states to determine if charges similar to the ones here can be filed against Colorado for Family Values or any of the groups who they laundry money for.

Judge Snider also ruled the CFV did not intentionally make this violation. We do not agree with this assessment. CFV committed this offense from September 1991 to March 1992 when the Secretary of State's office finally informed them they were in violation and to file as a political committee. Their argument that an "issue" is not an "issue" until it qualifies for the ballot does not hold up because Amendment 2 had not yet been approved for the ballot when they were compelled to file as a political committee.

People for a Stronger Colorado is accepting nominations for members of our Board of Directors. As most of you know, we have been operating under a steering committee since incorporating last July. Our Board of Directors is to be elected by the membership of the organization. Self-nominations are welcomed.

Requirements for Board nomination are: the ability to attend Bi-monthly meetings (we will make tele-conference available for out-of-towners); and membership to PSC. New members may be considered for a Board position once their annual dues are paid in full. Annual dues are $35.00/year for an individual and $50.00/year for a couple. Lifetime memberships are also available for $500.00/individual and $800.00/couple.

The job description of a Board member is: make the business decisions associated with a non-profit corporation; direct employer of the executive director; amend and maintain by-laws; make endorsements and decisions on ballot issues based on our mission statement.

Board nominees should mail their resume to the address above and include a one or two page narrative about why they are seeking a position on PSC's Board. Any further questions should be directed to Daniel A. Brewer-Ward at (303) 355-7530.

The election will be held Saturday, Feb. 12th at 1:00pm at PSC office at 1290 Williams Street, Denver. The meeting is open to members only. However, memberships will be taken at the door.

Put Your Business Card Here

Let Your Community know what you do!

Call Ground Zero for details

MEDIA STATEMENT FROM PEOPLE FOR A STRONGER COLORADO

We are here today because our state's constitution is under siege from special interest groups. A seemingly endless stream of these groups feel that our state's constitution is the proper venue for their agendas.

Part of the genius of our Federal constitution is that it is solid. It is not victim to political trends or fashion. We change it only when there is fundamental societal change. Our state constitution deserves no less respect.

It is time that we fine tune the way we adopt new state constitutional amendments. Today we are encouraging our legislature to adopt a measure that would require a 2/3 approval of the people before any future amendment is adopted.

This measure, known as the Constitutional Integrity Amendment, will protect our state's constitution from becoming a political junk yard. It will ensure that when we as a state do change our constitution, it will be as a consensus, not as a bitter, divided and splintered community as we have seen in recent years.

The Constitutional Integrity Amendment will also keep issues that belong in the statues in the statutes. The people's ability to amend statutory law will stay at a simple majority, as it should. Regardless of how you feel about black bear hunts and marijuana use, issues like these are not constitutional matters, they are statutory matters. Since the statutes will remain amenable at a simple majority, issues like these will not clutter the constitution.

It is important to note that we adamantly defend the citizen's right to petition our government and in no way does this measure restrict that right. All the Constitutional Integrity Amendment does is prevent this important document from becoming the plaything of the special interests.

We encourage our elected representatives to uphold their sworn duty to defend the state's constitution and embrace this Constitutional Integrity Amendment.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE GAZETTE TELEGRAPH BY FRANK WHITWORTH,

on behalf of Ground Zero.

In a letter to the editor (GT 12/28/93) Kevin Tebedo misstated one fact. He indicated that Lawrence Pacheco (Equality Colorado) and Linda Fowler (Colorado Alliance to Restore Equality) were present and spoke at a press conference called by Boycott Colorado. Such is not the truth. BCI had a press conference. Sixteen other organizations, including Ground Zero, held a distinct and separate press conference.

Not wishing to go into Kevin's usual patterned spin on what happened, I will tell you what Ground Zero intends to do in the future. Our goal and objective is first, and foremost, to work through education, community outreach and coalition to reverse the false stereotypes promoted by the lies, myths and hate rhetoric that flow so freely from Colorado for Family Values and their allies in their literature and spoken words.

It is important to note that they are still lying today, both in Colorado and, now, across the country, where the same rhetoric, designed to evoke hate and fear, is being urged on other campaigns, not for its honesty, but because it wins elections and raises money. It is empirical evidence of the radical right's philosophy that the end justifies the means.

Yes, Ground Zero will continue its campaign of education to right the wrongs done to millions nationwide by this type of campaign and to expose the continuing lies. We will further work to introduce the community to who Gays and Lesbians are and how they contribute to it. Ground Zero will also seek to education as to the dangers of legislation like Amendment 2 and English Only and where they can lead in relation to the overall agenda of the radical right. We truly believe that discrimination is a danger to all.

Ground Zero has an agenda --EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW-- and, because Gays and Lesbians have been historically discriminated against and because of the attack by the right through actions like Amendment 2, we will work for inclusion in Civil Rights Legislation. We do this not for "special" protections such as affirmative action and set asides and not to be forced on religious organizations, small boarding houses and apartment buildings or small businesses, all of which are exempted under all such laws, but, rather, to have a reasonable guarantee that gays and lesbians will be treated equally under the law in employment, housing and that we will have reasonable access to public accommodations. To say that affirmative action follows inclusion in civil rights legislation is one of the big lies of the right. One need only look at exclusions to these areas that already exists, such as is the case with religion.

CLERGY NEWSLETTER regarding Truth Telling from Bishop Winterrowd...

At the request of several of our clergy, I had agreed to a plan to invite fifty gays, lesbians and parents of homosexuals to our convention for the purpose of sharing their stories. We had planned to do this within the context of our baptismal covenant, "to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being."

We had planned to do this by convening small groups of ten on the convention floor during Bible study time with the selection of a Bible passage which focused on justice.

During the last few days I have received a number of phone calls and visits from clergy and lay people urging me not to do this. Some of the reasons advance were as follows:

* this will become the only focus of convention
* you will make people angry and they will walk out and not return
* they will not support your vision for the diocese
* churches will cut their support of the diocese
* people are sick of hearing about Amendment 2
* why only allow gay people to tell their stories?
* this is giving preference to gay people

Most of these comments saddened me because I do believe that our baptismal vow -- if it means anything at all -- should be lived out concretely.

I have been deeply distressed over the last few days as I have struggled with this conflict. I have taken seriously those who have spoken to me because I know they are committed Christian leaders and genuinely have the interest of the diocese at heart and, furthermore, care about their bishop.

I have tried to listen to what has been said and have prayed for guidance. Other have been praying for me that God would direct me in the right action.

I have decided to ask the Convention Planning committee to cancel the plan we put together for the following reason: Given our present situation, it would not be helpful to force people to listen to stories of gay, lesbian, and parent of homosexuals during the convention Bible study time. For me, as bishop and spiritual leader, to put people who are convention delegates in a situation that may be fearful and upsetting would derail our efforts to confront these discussions. Further, to do so might do great damage and impede the object of developing compassion in the church for gay and lesbian people. Finally, it could seriously divide a diocese where there are strong beliefs on both sides of the issue of homosexuality..

Telling the Truth can build faith. The truth for me is that I was impulsive to support the plan that had been developed. The conflict has caused me to look deep within myself for faith. I believe in my heart that it is important to hear the stories of gay and lesbian people and I will urge other members of the Body of which Jesus is the head to seek on their own opportunities to do so."

(On February 11, the Bishop has asked clergy on both sides of the issue to work with him on this issue. He has asked the clergy to reflect on the following passages. " There is not fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." John 4:18 and "It is love that banishes fear and prejudice, that allows us to grow in understanding, freedom and compassion, It was love that made Jesus draw to himself those whom the world abandoned. We who live in his name can do no less." A Passion for the Possible, William Slaine Coffin. On February 11, I too will be praying that the true meaning of Christianity flows through these religious hearts.)

A response to Bishop's Winterrowd's decision.

Dear Friends,

You will find enclosed an explanation from Bishop Winterrowd as to why he decided to cancel the small group storytelling time at the Diocesan Convention. (Article above) I very much appreciate his initial decision to have the storytellers. I very much appreciate his initial resistance to those who wanted the event dropped. And I appreciate his agonizing over his decision to cancel, but in the end I believe his decision was a capitulation to the forces of fear, ignorance, prejudice and hatred. Once again the church sends a message to the gay community and their parents that you don't count, you are second rate citizens, that you are not worth 45 minutes of the church's time!

To you who had agreed or were considering being facilitators.... I thank you for your cooperation. Most especially I wish to express my deep appreciation and thankfulness to the gay men, lesbians and the parents of gays who were willing to be vulnerable and truthful about their sacred stories, and face the possibility of scorn and contempt.

We almost had a moment of grace to put a human face on the subject of homosexuality; therefore, moving the matter out of stereotypes and other ill-informed notions. It is a tragedy that the moment was missed.

Love and prayers in Christ,

Larry Donoghue
Vicar of St. Laurence's Episcopal Church

A PUBLISHED GT EDITORIAL RESPONSE BY FRANK MOSHER

Robert Esler's letter ("Constitution? Which one?" Dec. 11) insinuating that anyone believing in the separation of church and state, equal rights for women, the right to privacy, etc., must have gotten these concepts from the former Soviet constitution, is typical of the right wing's desire to paint anyone who doesn't hold their reactionary views as anti-American.

The spurious nature of this argument is obvious if one looks at his attack on church-state separation. The "liberals" actually got the "bright idea" from Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, not the Soviet constitution. In 1802 Jefferson used this phrase in his letter to the Danbury (Conn.) Baptist association in which he declared the American people through the First Amendment had erected a "wall of separation between church and state." James Madison, considered the father of the Constitution, wrote in a personal letter in 1819, "The number, the industry and the morality of the priesthood, and the devolution of the people have been manifestly increased by the total separation of the church and state." In an earlier undated essay he also wrote, "Strongly guarded... is the separation between religion and government in the Constitution of the United States."

While it is true that the exact phrase "separation of church and state" does not appear in the Constitution, nether does "religious liberty," but who would deny that it is a constitutional principle? The right to a fair trail is generally accepted as a constitutional provision, yet "fair trial" is not found in the Constitution.

Since the Soviet state came into existence 145 years after Jefferson's statement on the "separation between church and state," Esler should attack the defunct communists for stealing from us rather than "liberals" for lifting Soviet ideology. After all, what the Soviet constitution said about religious freedom has no bearing on U.S. constitutional provisions. The Soviet document also guaranteed free speech, but no one has labeled freedom of expression a communist idea.

It's more of the same deception and double talk from the fanatical right. What I find most revealing, however, is Esler's lumping of the right to privacy, equal rights for women and the idea that people should have adequate health care together as horrors of communist thought. I think of them as matters of justice and compassion.

Perhaps Esler is too focused on the government and the liberals "assaulting the right" to be concerned about the welfare of the common citizens.

Think your friends might be missing something? They Are! Why not share this copy of the Ground Zero Newsletter with your friends, and let them fill out the membership form below to start receiving ALL the Ground Zero information, ALL the time.

Yes, I want to join Ground Zero in its fight against "2". Enclosed is $_____.
($10.00 is suggested, however if you can afford more it would be very appreciated. With a $10.00 or more membership you will receive GZ's monthly newsletter full of information.

Please, mark one of the following:
_____ Enter my name on your membership list.
_____ Accept this donation but do not place my name on your rolls at this time.

Name _____
Address _____
_____
(very important) Zip_____

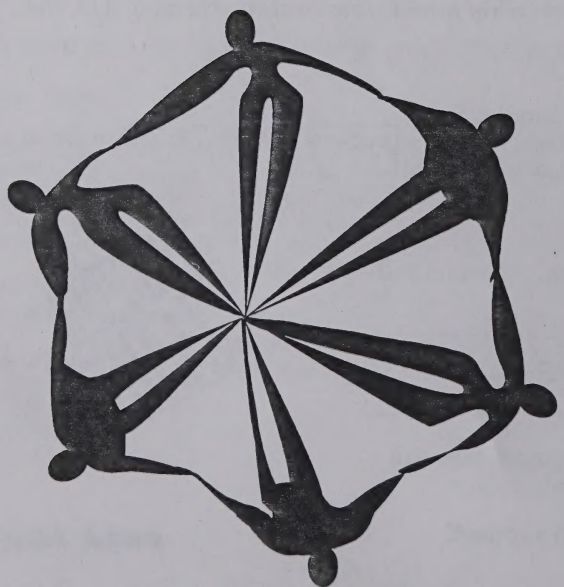
Telephone # _____ (By including your phone #, you will be added to GZ's phone tree.)

Thank you for your donation and support!

On Sunday, February 6, 1994 at 7 PM in the Gaylord Room of Worner Hall Ground Zero will hold an extremely important meeting. For months Ground Zero has been working on a plan for the future--not just for the next several months--but for years to come. It is a plan not just for Ground Zero but, also, for the community at large. We believe that this will be a defining moment in regard the future of the GLBT community in our area. All interested groups, individuals and entities will be included, will be needed and will be sought out in refining this plan. EVERYONE'S HELP WILL BE REQUIRED.

THE GLBT COMMUNITY HAS TAKEN THE REACTIVE ROAD ONCE TOO OFTEN. IT'S TIME FOR US TO GET OFF OUR COLLECTIVE REARS AND MOVE FORWARD WITH A PROACTIVE PROGRAM.

GROUND ZERO



WE ARE ALL FAMILY